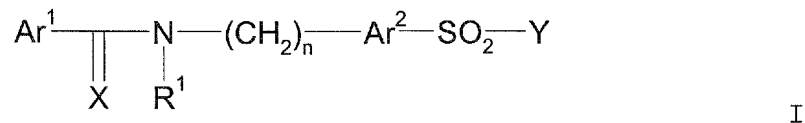


AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1. (Currently Amended) A sulfonamide compound according to formula I



with its geometrical isomers, in an optically active form as enantiomers, diastereomers, as well as in the form of racemates, as well as pharmaceutically acceptable salts thereof, wherein

Ar¹ is selected from the group consisting of phenyl, thienyl, furanyl, pyridyl, and optionally substituted by substituted or unsubstituted C₁-C₆ alkyl, substituted or unsubstituted C₁-C₆ alkoxy, substituted or unsubstituted C₂-C₆ alkenyl, substituted or unsubstituted C₂-C₆ alkynyl, amino, acylamino, aminocarbonyl, C₁-C₆ alkoxy carbonyl, aryl, carboxyl, cyano, halo, hydroxy, nitro, sulfonyl, sulfoxy, acyloxy, C₁-C₆ thioalkoxy;

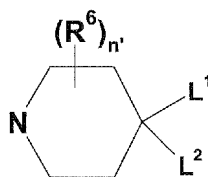
Ar² is selected from the group consisting of thienyl, furanyl, and pyridyl;

X is O or S;

R^1 is hydrogen or a C_1 - C_6 -alkyl group, or R^1 forms a substituted or unsubstituted 5-6-membered saturated or unsaturated ring with Ar^1 ;

n is an integer from 0 to 5;

Y is a piperidino group of the formula



wherein

L^1 and L^2 are independently selected from the group consisting of H, substituted or unsubstituted C_1 - C_6 -alkyl, substituted or unsubstituted C_2 - C_6 -alkenyl, substituted or unsubstituted C_2 - C_6 -alkynyl, and substituted or unsubstituted cyclic C_4 - C_8 -alkyl optionally containing 1-3 heteroatoms and optionally fused with aryl or heteroaryl; or L^1 and L^2 are independently selected from the group consisting of substituted or unsubstituted aryl, substituted or unsubstituted heteroaryl, aryl- C_1 - C_6 -alkyl, heteroaryl- C_1 - C_6 -alkyl, $-C(O)-OR^3$, $-C(O)-R^3$, $-C(O)-NR^{3'}R^3$, $-NR^{3'}R^3$, $-NR^{3'}C(O)R^3$, $-NR^{3'}C(O)NR^{3'}R^3$, $-(SO)R^3$, $-(SO_2)R^3$, $-NHSO_2R^3$, and $-SO_2NR^{3'}R^3$,

with R^3 and $R^{3'}$ being substituents independently selected from the group consisting of H, substituted or unsubstituted C_1 - C_6 -alkyl, substituted or unsubstituted C_2 - C_6 -alkenyl, substituted or unsubstituted aryl, substituted or

unsubstituted heteroaryl, substituted or unsubstituted aryl-
C₁-C₆-alkyl, and substituted or unsubstituted heteroaryl-C₁-C₆-
alkyl;

said aryl or heteroaryl groups being optionally
substituted C₁-C₆-alkyl, C₁-C₆-alkoxy, C₂-C₆-alkenyl, C₂-C₆-
alkynyl, amino, acylamino, aminocarbonyl, C₁-C₆-alkoxycarbonyl,
aryl, carboxyl, cyano, halogen, hydroxy, nitro, sulfonyl,
sulfoxy or C₁-C₆-thioalkoxy; and

R⁶ is selected from the group consisting of
hydrogen, substituted or unsubstituted C₁-C₆-alkyl, substituted
or unsubstituted C₁-C₆-alkoxy, OH, halogen, nitro, cyano,
sulfonyl, and oxo (=O); and

n' is an integer from 0 to 4;

with the proviso that if Ar¹ is 4-chlorophenyl, then
X is O, R¹ is H, Ar² is thienyl, and Y is not para-substituted
by 2-hydroxyethyl;

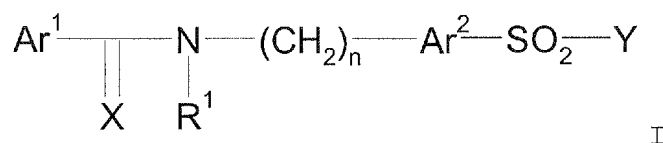
~~with the further proviso that if Ar² is phenyl, then
X is O, R² is H, Ar² is thienyl, and Y is not substituted in
its β position by a benzo [5,6] cyclohepta [1,2b] pyridine or
a benzo [5,6] cyclohept [3,4] ene [1,2b] pyridine;~~

~~with the final proviso that if X is oxygen, then Y
shall not be substituted by a group (C=O)N(R,R') at the α -
position of the sulfonamide nitrogen in which R and R' are~~

~~independently chosen from hydrogen, C₁-C₆-alkyl, aryl,
heteroaryl, C₁-C₆-alkyl aryl or C₁-C₆-alkyl heteroaryl,~~

wherein the term "substituted" means that the group that is substituted is substituted with from its 5 substituents, said substituents being a group selected from the group consisting of C₁-C₆ alkyl; C₁-C₆ alkyl aryl; C₁-C₆ alkyl heteroaryl; C₂-C₆ alkenyl; C₂-C₆ alkynyl; primary, secondary or tertiary amino groups; quaternary ammonium groups; acyl; acyloxy; acylamino; aminocarbonyl; alkoxy carbonyl; aryl; heteroaryl; carboxyl; cyano; halogen; hydroxyl; mercapto; nitro; sulfoxy; sulfonyl; alkoxy, thioalkoxy; and trihalomethyl.

2. (Currently Amended) A composition comprising a sulfonamide compound according to formula I



with its geometrical isomers, in an optically active form as enantiomers, diastereomersdiastereoisomers, as well as in the form of racemates, as well as pharmaceutically acceptable salts thereof, wherein

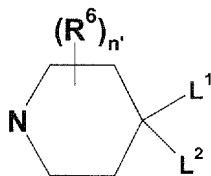
X is O or S;

Ar^1 and Ar^2 are a substituted or unsubstituted aryl or heteroaryl group ~~with the proviso that Ar^2 is neither 1,3-phenylene or 1,4-phenylene and Ar^1 is not phenylene or quinazoline that is substituted by nitro, hydroxyl, or 3,4-dichlorophenyl-amine;~~

R^1 is hydrogen or a C_1 - C_6 -alkyl group, or R^1 forms a substituted or unsubstituted 5-6-membered saturated or unsaturated ring with Ar^1 ;

n is an integer from 0 to 5;

Y is a piperidino group of the formula



wherein

L^1 and L^2 are independently selected from the group consisting of H, substituted or unsubstituted C_1 - C_6 -alkyl, substituted or unsubstituted C_2 - C_6 -alkenyl, substituted or unsubstituted C_2 - C_6 -alkynyl, and substituted or unsubstituted cyclic C_4 - C_8 -alkyl optionally containing 1-3 heteroatoms and optionally fused with aryl or heteroaryl; or L^1 and L^2 are independently selected from the group consisting of substituted or unsubstituted aryl, substituted or unsubstituted heteroaryl, aryl- C_1 - C_6 -alkyl, heteroaryl- C_1 - C_6 -

alkyl, $-C(O)-OR^3$, $-C(O)-R^3$, $-C(O)-NR^{3'}R^3$, $-NR^{3'}R^3$, $-NR^{3'}C(O)R^3$, $-NR^{3'}C(O)NR^{3'}R^3$, $-(SO)R^3$, $-(SO_2)R^3$, $-NHSO_2R^3$, and $-SO_2NR^{3'}R^3$,

with R^3 and $R^{3'}$ being substituents independently selected from the group consisting of H, substituted or unsubstituted C_1-C_6 -alkyl, substituted or unsubstituted C_2-C_6 -alkenyl, substituted or unsubstituted aryl, substituted or unsubstituted heteroaryl, substituted or unsubstituted aryl- C_1-C_6 -alkyl, and substituted or unsubstituted heteroaryl- C_1-C_6 -alkyl;

said aryl or heteroaryl groups being optionally substituted C_1-C_6 -alkyl, C_1-C_6 -alkoxy, C_2-C_6 -alkenyl, C_2-C_6 -alkynyl, amino, acylamino, aminocarbonyl, C_1-C_6 -alkoxycarbonyl, aryl, carboxyl, cyano, halogen, hydroxy, nitro, sulfonyl, sulfoxy, or C_1-C_6 -thioalkoxy; and

R^6 is selected from the group consisting of hydrogen, substituted or unsubstituted C_1-C_6 -alkyl, substituted or unsubstituted C_1-C_6 -alkoxy, OH, halogen, nitro, cyano, sulfonyl, and oxo ($=O$); and

n' is an integer from 0 to 4;

with the proviso that if Y is substituted at the β -position of the piperidino- nitrogen by a benzo[5, 6]cyclohepta[1, 2b]pyridine, or a benzo[5, 6]cyclohept [3,4] ene [1, 2b]pyridine, while Ar^2 is thienyl, X is oxygen, R^1 is hydrogen and n is 1, Ar^1 shall not be a phenyl group;

and a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier.

~~with the final proviso that if X is oxygen, Y shall not be substituted by a group (C=O)N(R,R') at the α position of the sulfonamide nitrogen in which R and R' are independently chosen from hydrogen, C₁-C₆-alkyl, aryl, heteroaryl, C₁-C₆-alkyl aryl or C₁-C₆-alkyl heteroaryl.~~

3-4. (Cancelled)

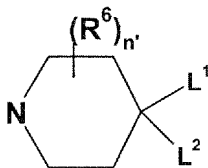
5. (Previously Presented) A sulfonamide compound according to claim 1, wherein Ar¹ is selected from the group consisting of phenyl, thienyl, furyl, pyridyl, and optionally substituted by C₁-C₆-alkyl, C₁-C₆-alkoxy, C₂-C₆-alkenyl, C₂-C₆-alkynyl, amino, acylamino, aminocarbonyl, C₁-C₆-alkoxycarbonyl, aryl, carboxyl, cyano, halogen, hydroxy, nitro, sulfonyl and C₁-C₆-thioalkoxy.

6. (Previously Presented) A sulfonamide compound according to claim 5, wherein Ar¹ is an unsubstituted or substituted phenyl.

7. (Previously Presented) A sulfonamide compound according to claim 5, wherein Ar² is thienyl or furanyl group.

8. (Previously Presented) A sulfonamide compound according to claim 1, wherein Ar^1 is selected from the group consisting of a 4-chlorophenyl, nitrophenyl, hydroxyphenyl, alkoxy phenyl, pyridyl, 3,4,-dihydroxyphenyl, and X is O, R^1 is hydrogen, n is 1, Ar^2 is thienyl or furanyl.

9. (Currently Amended) A sulfonamide compound according to claim 8, wherein Y is



$(\text{R}^6)_{n'}$ is selected from the group consisting of hydrogen, substituted or unsubstituted $\text{C}_1\text{-C}_6$ alkyl, substituted or unsubstituted $\text{C}_1\text{-C}_6$ alkoxy, OH, halogen, nitro, cyano, sulfonyl, and oxo; n' is an integer of from 0 to 4; and

wherein L^1 and L^2 are independently selected from each other from the group consisting of H, substituted or unsubstituted $\text{C}_1\text{-C}_6$ - alkyl, substituted or unsubstituted $\text{C}_2\text{-C}_6$ alkenyl; or L^1 and L^2 are independently selected from the group consisting of substituted or unsubstituted aryl, substituted or unsubstituted heteroaryl, substituted or unsubstituted cyclic $\text{C}_4\text{-C}_8$ alkyl optionally containing 1-3 heteroatoms and optionally fused with aryl or heteroaryl, aryl- $\text{C}_1\text{-C}_4$ alkyl,

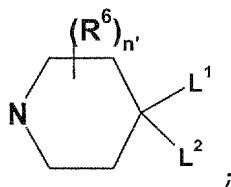
heteroaryl-C₁-C₄ alkyl, -C(O)-OR³, -C(O)-R³, -C(O)-NR^{3'}R³, -
NR^{3'}R³; -NR^{3'}C(O)R³ -NR^{3'}C(O)R³, -NR^{3'}C(O)NR³R³ -NR^{3'}C(O)R³R³, -
(SO)R³, -(SO₂)R³, -NHSO₂R³, and -SO₂NR³R^{3'};

with R³ and R^{3'} being substituents independently
selected from the group consisting of H, substituted or
unsubstituted C₁-C₄ alkyl, substituted or unsubstituted C₂-C₆
alkenyl, substituted or unsubstituted aryl, substituted or
unsubstituted heteroaryl, substituted or unsubstituted aryl-
C₁-C₄-alkyl, substituted or unsubstituted heteroaryl-C₁-C₆-
alkyl;

said aryl or heteroaryl groups being optionally
substituted with a member selected from the group consisting
of C₁-C₆-alkyl, C₁-C₆-alkoxy, C₂-C₆-alkenyl, C₂-C₆-alkynyl,
amino, acylamino, aminocarbonyl, C₁-C₆-alkoxycarbonyl, aryl,
carboxyl, cyano, halogen, hydroxy, nitro, sulfonyl, sulfoxy
and C₁-C₆-thioalkoxy.

10. (Previously Presented) A sulfonamide compound
according to claim 9, wherein R⁶ is H, L² is H, L¹ is a 5-
membered cyclic group containing 3 heteroatoms or L¹ is -C(O)-
R³, or -NHR³;

wherein Y is



n' is an integer of from 0 to 4;

with R^3 being a substituent selected from the group comprising or consisting of C_1 - C_4 -alkyl, aryl, heteroaryl, aryl- C_1 - C_4 -alkyl and heteroaryl- C_1 - C_6 -alkyl;

said aryl or heteroaryl groups being optionally substituted by halogen, hydroxy, nitro, or sulfonyl.

11. (Currently Amended) A sulfonamide compound according to claim 1, selected from the group consisting of:

4-chloro-N-{5-[4-(3-trifluoromethanesulfonyl-phenylamino)-piperidine-1-sulfonyl]-thiophen-2-ylmethyl}-benzamide;

4-chloro-N-[(5-{[4-(4-fluorobenzoyl)piperidin-1-yl]sulfonyl}thien-2-yl)methyl]benzamide;

4-chloro-N-({5-[(4-hydroxy-4-phenylpiperidin-1-yl)sulfonyl]thien-2-yl)methyl}benzamide;

N-({5-[(4-benzoylpiperidin-1-yl)sulfonyl]thien-2-yl)methyl}-4-chlorobenzamide;

4-chloro-N-[(5-{[4-(2-oxo-2,3-dihydro-1H-benzimidazol-1-yl)piperidin-1-yl]sulfonyl}thien-2-yl)methyl]benzamide;

N-({5-[(4-benzylpiperidin-1-yl)sulfonyl]thien-2-yl)methyl)-4-chlorobenzamide;

4-chloro-N-([5-{[4-(2,4-difluorobenzoyl)piperidin-1-yl)sulfonyl]thien-2-yl)methyl]benzamide;

~~tert-butyl-1-[(5-{[(4-chlorobenzoyl)amino]methyl}thien-2-yl)sulfonyl]piperidin-4-ylcarbamate;~~

4-chloro-N-{[5-(piperidin-1-ylsulfonyl)thien-2-yl)methyl]benzamide;

4-chloro-N-{[5-({3-hydroxy-4-[3-(trifluoromethyl)phenyl]piperidin-1-yl}sulfonyl)thien-2-yl)methyl]benzamide;

4-chloro-N-({5-[(4-hydroxypiperidin-1-yl)sulfonyl]thien-2-yl)methyl)benzamide;

N-({5-[(4-benzyl-4-hydroxypiperidin-1-yl)sulfonyl]thien-2-yl)methyl)-4-chlorobenzamide;

N-{[5-({4-[(2-tert-butyl-1H-indol-5-yl)amino]piperidin-1-yl}sulfonyl)thien-2-yl)methyl]-4-chlorobenzamide;

4-chloro-N-{[5-({4-[(phenylacetyl)amino]piperidin-1-yl}sulfonyl)thien-2-yl)methyl]benzamide;

N-[5-{[4-(2H-1,2,3-benzotriazol-2-yl)piperidin-1-yl)sulfonyl]thien-2-yl)methyl]-4-chlorobenzamide;

4-chloro-N-[(5-{[4-(4-chlorobenzoyl)piperidin-1-yl]sulfonyl}thien-2-yl)methyl]benzamide;

N-{[5-({4-[benzyl(methyl)amino]piperidin-1-yl}sulfonyl)thien-2-yl)methyl]-4-chlorobenzamide;

4-chloro-N-{[5-({4-[3-(2,4-dichlorophenyl)-1H-pyrazol-5-yl]piperidin-1-yl}sulfonyl)thien-2-yl)methyl]benzamide;

4-chloro-N-[(5-{[4-(5-thien-2-yl-1H-pyrazol-3-yl)piperidin-1-yl]sulfonyl}thien-2-yl)methyl]benzamide;

4-chloro-N-[(5-{[4-(2,3,4,5,6-pentamethylbenzoyl)piperidin-1-yl]sulfonyl}thien-2-yl)methyl]benzamide;

4-chloro-N-{[5-({4-[5-(4-methoxyphenyl)-1H-pyrazol-3-yl]piperidin-1-yl}sulfonyl)thien-2-yl)methyl]benzamide;

N-({5-[(4-anilinopiperidin-1-yl)sulfonyl]thien-2-yl)methyl)-4-chlorobenzamide;

4-chloro-N-[(5-{[4-(2-phenylethyl)piperidin-1-yl]sulfonyl}thien-2-yl)methyl]benzamide;

N-[(5-{[4-(1H-1,2,3-benzotriazol-1-yl)piperidin-1-yl]sulfonyl}thien-2-yl)methyl]-4-chlorobenzamide;

2-{1-[(5-{[(4-chlorobenzoyl)amino]methyl}thien-2-yl)sulfonyl]piperidin-4-yl}-2H-1,2,3-benzotriazole-5-carboxylic acid;

methyl 1-{1-[(5-{[(4-chlorobenzoyl)amino]methyl}thien-2-yl)sulfonyl]piperidin-4-yl}-1H-1,2,3-benzotriazole-5-carboxylate;

methyl 1-{1-[(5-{[(4-chlorobenzoyl)amino]methyl}thien-2-yl)sulfonyl]piperidin-4-yl}-1H-1,2,3-benzotriazole-6-carboxylate;

methyl 2-{1-[(5-{[(4-chlorobenzoyl)amino]methyl}thien-2-yl)sulfonyl]piperidin-4-yl}-2H-1,2,3-benzotriazole-5-carboxylate;

4-chloro-N-[(5-{[4-(6-chloro-1H-1,2,3-benzotriazol-1-yl)piperidin-1-yl]sulfonyl}thien-2-yl)methyl]benzamide;

4-chloro-N-{[5-({4-[5-(trifluoromethyl)-1H-1,2,3-benzotriazol-1-yl]piperidin-1-yl}sulfonyl)thien-2-yl]methyl}benzamide;

N-[(5-{[4-(7-aza-1H-benzimidazol-1-yl)piperidin-1-yl]sulfonyl}thien-2-yl)methyl]-4-chlorobenzamide;

1-{1-[(5-{[(4-chlorobenzoyl)amino]methyl}thien-2-yl)sulfonyl]piperidin-4-yl}-1H-1,2,3-benzotriazole-5-carboxylic acid;

1-{1-[(5-{[(4-chlorobenzoyl)amino]methyl}thien-2-yl)sulfonyl]piperidin-4-yl}-1H-1,2,3-benzotriazole-6-carboxylic acid;

N-[(5-{[4-(2-amino-9H-purin-9-yl)piperidin-1-yl]sulfonyl}thien-2-yl)methyl]-4-chlorobenzamide;

4-chloro-N-[(5-{[4-(9H-purin-9-yl)piperidin-1-yl]sulfonyl}thien-2-yl)methyl]benzamide;

N-[(5-{[4-(6-amino-9H-purin-9-yl)piperidin-1-yl]sulfonyl}thien-2-yl)methyl]-4-chlorobenzamide;

4-chloro-N-({5-[4-{6-nitro-1H-benzimidazol-1-yl}piperidin-1-yl]sulfonyl}thien-2-yl)methyl)benzamide;

4-chloro-N-({5-[4-{5-nitro-1H-benzimidazol-1-yl}piperidin-1-yl]sulfonyl}thien-2-yl)methyl)benzamide;

4-chloro-N-[(5-{[4-(2H-1,2,3-triazol-2-yl)piperidin-1-yl]sulfonyl}thien-2-yl)methyl]benzamide;

N-[(5-{[4-(1H-benzimidazol-1-yl)piperidin-1-yl]sulfonyl}thien-2-yl)methyl]-4-chlorobenzamide;

4-chloro-N-{[5-({4-[3-propylanilino]piperidin-1-yl}sulfonyl)thien-2-yl)methyl}benzamide;

4-chloro-N-{[5-({4-[3-(dimethylamino)anilino]piperidin-1-yl}sulfonyl)thien-2-yl)methyl}benzamide;

methyl 3-({1-[5-({[4-chlorobenzoyl]amino)-methyl}thien-2-yl)sulfonyl]piperidin-4-yl}amino)-benzoate;

4-chloro-N-{[5-({4-[3-(methylsulfanyl)anilino]piperidin-1-yl}sulfonyl)thien-2-yl)methyl}benzamide;

4-chloro-N-({5-[4-{3-nitroanilino}piperidin-1-yl]sulfonyl}thien-2-yl)methyl)benzamide;

4-chloro-N-[(5-{[4-(2-methoxyanilino)piperidin-1-yl]sulfonyl}thien-2-yl)methyl]benzamide;

3-({1-[(5-{[(4-chlorobenzoyl)amino]methyl}thien-2-yl)sulfonyl]piperidin-4-yl}amino)benzamide;

4-chloro-N-({5-[(4-{2-nitro-4-[(trifluoromethyl)sulfonyl]anilino}piperidin-1-yl)sulfonyl]thien-2-yl)methyl}benzamide;

4-chloro-N-[(5-{[4-(4-chloroanilino)piperidin-1-yl]sulfonyl}thien-2-yl)methyl]benzamide;

4-chloro-N-({5-[(4-{4-[(trifluoromethyl)sulfonyl]anilino}piperidin-1-yl)sulfonyl]thien-2-yl)methyl}benzamide;

4-chloro-N-({5-[(4-{2-nitroanilino}piperidin-1-yl)sulfonyl]thien-2-yl)methyl}benzamide;

N-{[5-({4-[4-(aminocarbonyl)anilino]piperidin-1-yl}sulfonyl)thien-2-yl)methyl]-4-chlorobenzamide;

N-[(5-{[4-(3-chloroanilino)piperidin-1-yl]sulfonyl}thien-2-yl)methyl]-3-nitrobenzamide;

4-chloro-N-[(5-{[4-(3-chloroanilino)piperidin-1-yl]sulfonyl}thien-2-yl)methyl]benzamide;

4-chloro-N-[(5-{[4-(3-methoxyanilino)piperidin-1-yl]sulfonyl}thien-2-yl)methyl]benzamide;

4-chloro-N- { [5- ({4- [3-
(methylsulfonyl) anilino] piperidin-1-yl} sulfonyl) thien-2-
yl] methyl} benzamide;

N- [(5- { [4- (2-aminoanilino) piperidin-1-
yl] sulfonyl} thien-2-yl) methyl] -4-chlorobenzamide;

4-chloro-N- [(5- { [4- (2-hydroxyanilino) piperidin-1-
yl] sulfonyl} thien-2-yl) methyl] benzamide;

4-chloro-N- [(5- { [4- (4-hydroxyanilino) piperidin-1-
yl] sulfonyl} thien-2-yl) methyl] benzamide;

4-chloro-N- [(5- { [4- (3-toluidino) piperidin-1-
yl] sulfonyl} thien-2-yl) methyl] benzamide;

N- [(5- { [4- (3-tert-butylanilino) piperidin-1-
yl] sulfonyl} thien-2-yl) methyl] -4-chlorobenzamide;

4-chloro-N- [(5- { [4- (2-propylanilino) piperidin-1-
yl] sulfonyl} thien-2-yl) methyl] benzamide;

4-chloro-N- { [5- ({4- [(2,2-dioxido-1,3-dihydro-2-
benzothien-5-yl) amino] piperidin-1-yl} sulfonyl) thien-2-
yl] methyl} benzamide;

4-chloro-N- [(5- { [4- (2,3-dihydro-1H-inden-5-
ylamino) piperidin-1-yl] sulfonyl} thien-2-yl) methyl] benzamide;

4-chloro-N- [(5- { [4- (4-propylanilino) piperidin-1-
yl] sulfonyl} thien-2-yl) methyl] benzamide;

4-chloro-N- [(5- { [4- ({3-nitropyridin-2-
yl} amino) piperidin-1-yl] sulfonyl} thien-2-yl) methyl] benzamide;

N- { [5- ({4- [(3-aminopyridin-2-yl) amino] piperidin-1-yl} sulfonyl) thien-2-yl] methyl} -4-chlorobenzamide;

4-chloro-N- [(5- { [4- (pyrimidin-2-ylamino) piperidin-1-yl] sulfonyl} thien-2-yl) methyl] benzamide;

4-chloro-N- ({5- [(4- { [4- (trifluoromethyl) pyrimidin-2-yl] amino} piperidin-1-yl) sulfonyl] thien-2-yl} methyl) benzamide;

4-chloro-N- [(5- { [4- (3-ethylanilino) piperidin-1-yl] sulfonyl} thien-2-yl) methyl] benzamide;

4-chloro-N- [(5- { [4- (5,6,7,8-tetrahydronaphthalen-1-ylamino) piperidin-1-yl] sulfonyl} thien-2-yl) methyl] benzamide;

4-chloro-N- [(5- { [4- (quinolin-5-ylamino) piperidin-1-yl] sulfonyl} thien-2-yl) methyl] benzamide;

4-chloro-N- [(5- { [4- (quinolin-8-ylamino) piperidin-1-yl] sulfonyl} thien-2-yl) methyl] benzamide;

4-nitro-N- ({5- [(4- {3-
[(trifluoromethyl) sulfonyl] anilino} piperidin-1-yl) sulfonyl] thien-2-yl} methyl) benzamide;

N- [(5- { [4- (1H-1,2,3-benzotriazol-1-yl) piperidin-1-yl] sulfonyl} thien-2-yl) methyl] -3-nitrobenzamide;

N- [(5- { [4- (2,4-difluorobenzoyl) piperidin-1-yl] sulfonyl} thien-2-yl) methyl] -4-nitrobenzamide;

N- [(5- { [4- (1H-1,2,3-benzotriazol-1-yl) piperidin-1-yl] sulfonyl} thien-2-yl) methyl] -4-nitrobenzamide;

3-nitro-N-[(5-{[4-(3-methoxyanilino)piperidin-1-yl]sulfonyl}thien-2-yl)methyl]benzamide;

N-{[5-({4-[3-(dimethylamino)anilino]piperidin-1-yl}sulfonyl)thien-2-yl)methyl}-3-nitrobenzamide;

3-nitro-N-{[5-({4-[3-(methylsulfonyl)anilino]piperidin-1-yl}sulfonyl)thien-2-yl)methyl}benzamide;

3-nitro-N-{[5-({4-[3-(methylsulfonyl)anilino]piperidin-1-yl}sulfonyl)thien-2-yl)methyl}benzamide;

~~N-{[5-({4-[3-(aminosulfonyl)anilino]piperidin-1-yl}sulfonyl)thien-2-yl)methyl}-3-nitrobenzamide;~~

methyl 3-{[1-({5-[({3-nitrobenzoyl}amino)methyl]-thien-2-yl}sulfonyl)-piperidin-4-yl]amino}benzoate;

N-{[5-({4-[3-(aminocarbonyl)anilino]piperidin-1-yl}sulfonyl)thien-2-yl)methyl}-3-nitrobenzamide;

3-nitro-N-({5-[4-(3-nitroanilino)piperidin-1-yl]sulfonyl}thien-2-yl)methyl)benzamide;

3-nitro-N-[(5-{[4-(2-methoxyanilino)piperidin-1-yl]sulfonyl}thien-2-yl)methyl]benzamide;

3-nitro-N-({5-[4-(2-nitroanilino)piperidin-1-yl]sulfonyl}thien-2-yl)methyl)benzamide;

N-[(5-{[4-(4-chloroanilino)piperidin-1-yl]sulfonyl}thien-2-yl)methyl]-3-nitrobenzamide;

3-nitro-N-({5-[4-{4-
[(trifluoromethyl)sulfonyl]anilino}piperidin-1-
yl)sulfonyl]thien-2-yl)methyl}benzamide;

N-{[5-({4-[4-(aminocarbonyl)anilino]piperidin-1-
yl}sulfonyl)thien-2-yl)methyl}-3-nitrobenzamide;

N-([5-{[4-(3-propylanilino)piperidin-1-
yl)sulfonyl]thien-2-yl)methyl]-3-nitrobenzamide;

N-([5-{[4-(3-chloroanilino)piperidin-1-
yl)sulfonyl]thien-2-yl)methyl]-4-nitrobenzamide;

4-nitro-N-([5-{[4-(3-methoxyanilino)piperidin-1-
yl)sulfonyl]thien-2-yl)methyl}benzamide;

N-{[5-({4-[3-(dimethylamino)anilino]piperidin-1-
yl}sulfonyl)thien-2-yl)methyl]-4-nitrobenzamide;

4-nitro-N-([5-{[4-(3-propylanilino)piperidin-1-
yl)sulfonyl]thien-2-yl)methyl}benzamide;

4-nitro-N-([5-({4-[3-
(methylsulfonyl)anilino]piperidin-1-yl}sulfonyl)thien-2-
yl)methyl}benzamide;

4-nitro-N-([5-({4-[3-
(methylsulfanyl)anilino]piperidin-1-yl}sulfonyl)thien-2-
yl)methyl}benzamide;

~~N-([5-({4-[3-(aminosulfonyl)anilino]piperidin-1-
yl}sulfonyl)thien-2-yl)methyl]-4-nitrobenzamide;~~

methyl 3-{[1-({5-[(4-nitrobenzoyl)amino)methyl]-thien-2-yl)sulfonyl]piperidin-4-yl}amino}benzoate;

3-{[1-({5-[(4-nitrobenzoyl)amino)methyl]thien-2-yl)sulfonyl]piperidin-4-yl}amino}benzamide;

4-nitro-N-({5-[(4-{3-nitroanilino}piperidin-1-yl)sulfonyl]thien-2-yl)methyl}benzamide;

4-nitro-N-[(5-{[4-(2-methoxyanilino)piperidin-1-yl)sulfonyl]thien-2-yl)methyl}benzamide;

4-nitro-N-({5-[(4-{2-nitroanilino}piperidin-1-yl)sulfonyl]thien-2-yl)methyl}benzamide;

N-[(5-{[4-(4-chloroanilino)piperidin-1-yl)sulfonyl]thien-2-yl)methyl]-4-nitrobenzamide;

4-nitro-N-({5-[(4-{4-[(trifluoromethyl)sulfonyl]anilino}piperidin-1-yl)sulfonyl]thien-2-yl)methyl}benzamide;

N-{[5-({4-[4-(aminocarbonyl)anilino]piperidin-1-yl)sulfonyl]thien-2-yl)methyl}-4-nitrobenzamide;

N-({5-[(4-anilinopiperidin-1-yl)sulfonyl]thien-2-yl)methyl}-3-nitrobenzamide;

N-({5-[(4-anilinopiperidin-1-yl)sulfonyl]thien-2-yl)methyl}-4-nitrobenzamide;

3-nitro-N-[(5-{[4-({3-nitropyridin-2-yl}amino)piperidin-1-yl)sulfonyl]thien-2-yl)methyl}benzamide;

N-{[5-({4-[(2,2-dioxido-1,3-dihydro-2-benzothien-5-yl)amino]piperidin-1-yl}sulfonyl)thien-2-yl)methyl}-3-nitrobenzamide;

N-[(5-{[4-(2,3-dihydro-1H-inden-5-ylamino)piperidin-1-yl}sulfonyl}thien-2-yl)methyl]-3-nitrobenzamide;

3-nitro-N-[(5-{[4-(2-propylanilino)piperidin-1-yl}sulfonyl}thien-2-yl)methyl]benzamide;

3-nitro-N-[(5-{[4-(4-propylanilino)piperidin-1-yl}sulfonyl}thien-2-yl)methyl]benzamide;

N-[(5-{[4-(3-tert-butylanilino)piperidin-1-yl}sulfonyl}thien-2-yl)methyl]-3-nitrobenzamide;

3-nitro-N-[(5-{[4-(2-phenylethyl)piperidin-1-yl}sulfonyl}thien-2-yl)methyl]benzamide;

~~3-nitro-N-[(5-{[4-[(3-morpholin-4-yl)sulfonyl]anilino]piperidin-1-yl}sulfonyl)thien-2-yl)methyl]benzamide;~~

4-nitro-N-[(5-{[4-(pyrimidin-2-ylamino)piperidin-1-yl}sulfonyl}thien-2-yl)methyl]benzamide;

N-{[5-({4-[(3-aminopyridin-2-yl)amino]piperidin-1-yl}sulfonyl)thien-2-yl)methyl}-4-nitrobenzamide;

4-nitro-N-[(5-{[4-({3-nitropyridin-2-yl}amino)piperidin-1-yl}sulfonyl}thien-2-yl)methyl]benzamide;

N-[(5-{[4-(2,3-dihydro-1H-inden-5-ylamino)piperidin-1-yl}sulfonyl}thien-2-yl)methyl]-4-nitrobenzamide;

4-nitro-N-[(5-{[4-(2-propylanilino)piperidin-1-yl]sulfonyl}thien-2-yl)methyl]benzamide;

4-nitro-N-[(5-{[4-(4-propylanilino)piperidin-1-yl]sulfonyl}thien-2-yl)methyl]benzamide;

N-[(5-{[4-(3-tert-butylanilino)piperidin-1-yl]sulfonyl}thien-2-yl)methyl]-4-nitrobenzamide;

4-nitro-N-[(5-{[4-(2-phenylethyl)piperidin-1-yl]sulfonyl}thien-2-yl)methyl]benzamide;

~~4-nitro-N-[(5-{[4-[3-(morpholin-4-ylsulfonyl)anilino]piperidin-1-yl]sulfonyl}thien-2-yl)methyl]benzamide;~~

N-[(5-{[4-(2-aminoanilino)piperidin-1-yl]sulfonyl}thien-2-yl)methyl]-3-nitrobenzamide;

3-nitro-N-[(5-{[4-(pyrimidin-2-ylamino)piperidin-1-yl]sulfonyl}thien-2-yl)methyl]benzamide;

N-{[5-({[4-[(3-aminopyridin-2-yl)amino]piperidin-1-yl]sulfonyl}thien-2-yl)methyl]-3-nitrobenzamide;

N-({[5-[(4-{2-nitro-4-[(trifluoromethyl)sulfonyl]anilino}piperidin-1-yl)sulfonyl]thien-2-yl)methyl]-3-methoxybenzamide;

N-[(5-{[4-(3-ethylanilino)piperidin-1-yl]sulfonyl}thien-2-yl)methyl]-3-nitrobenzamide;

3-nitro-N-[(5-{[4-(5,6,7,8-tetrahydronaphthalen-1-ylamino)piperidin-1-yl]sulfonyl}thien-2-yl)methyl]benzamide;

~~4-nitro-N-[(5-{[4-(3-propylphenoxy)piperidin-1-yl]sulfonyl}thien-2-yl)methyl]benzamide;~~

N-[(5-{[4-(2,4-difluorobenzoyl)piperidin-1-yl]sulfonyl}thien-2-yl)methyl]-3-nitrobenzamide;

N-[(5-{[4-(2,4-difluorobenzoyl)piperidin-1-yl]sulfonyl}thien-2-yl)methyl]-3-methoxybenzamide;

2-Hydroxy-N-({5-[(4-{3-[(trifluoromethyl)sulfonyl]anilino}piperidin-1-yl)sulfonyl]thien-2-yl)methyl}benzamide;

N-[(5-{[4-(1H-1,2,3-benzotriazol-1-yl)piperidin-1-yl]sulfonyl}thien-2-yl)methyl]-3-methoxybenzamide;

N-[(5-{[4-(1H-1,2,3-benzotriazol-1-yl)piperidin-1-yl]sulfonyl}thien-2-yl)methyl]-2-hydroxybenzamide;

3-methoxy-N-[(5-{[4-(3-methoxyanilino)piperidin-1-yl]sulfonyl}thien-2-yl)methyl]benzamide;

N-{[5-({4-[3-(dimethylamino)anilino]piperidin-1-yl}sulfonyl)thien-2-yl)methyl]-3-methoxybenzamide;

3-methoxy-N-[(5-{[4-(3-propylanilino)piperidin-1-yl]sulfonyl}thien-2-yl)methyl]benzamide;

3-methoxy-N-{[5-({4-[3-(methylsulfonyl)anilino]piperidin-1-yl}sulfonyl)thien-2-yl)methyl}benzamide;

3-methoxy-N- { [5- ({4- [3-
(methylsulfonyl) anilino] piperidin-1-yl } sulfonyl) thien-2-
yl] methyl } benzamide;

methyl 3- ({1- [(5- { [(3-methoxybenzoyl) amino] -
methyl } thien-2-yl) sulfonyl] piperidin-4-yl } amino) -benzoate;

N- { [5- ({4- [3- (aminocarbonyl) anilino] piperidin-1-
yl } sulfonyl) thien-2-yl] methyl } -3-methoxybenzamide;

3-methoxy-N- [(5- { [4- (2-methoxyanilino) piperidin-1-
yl] sulfonyl } thien-2-yl) methyl] benzamide;

N- ({5- [(4- {3-nitroanilino} piperidin-1-
yl) sulfonyl] thien-2-yl } methyl) -3-methoxybenzamide;

N- ({5- [(4- {2-nitroanilino} piperidin-1-
yl) sulfonyl] thien-2-yl } methyl) -3-methoxybenzamide;

N- { [5- ({4- [4- (aminocarbonyl) anilino] piperidin-1-
yl } sulfonyl) thien-2-yl] methyl } -3-methoxybenzamide;

N- [(5- { [4- (3-chloroanilino) piperidin-1-
yl] sulfonyl } thien-2-yl) methyl] -3-methoxybenzamide;

N- [(5- { [4- (4-chloroanilino) piperidin-1-
yl] sulfonyl } thien-2-yl) methyl] -3-methoxybenzamide;

3-methoxy-N- ({5- [(4- {4-
[(trifluoromethyl) sulfonyl] anilino} piperidin-1-
yl) sulfonyl] thien-2-yl } methyl) benzamide;

~~N- ({5- [(4- {3- [amino (imino) methyl] anilino} piperidin-
1-yl) sulfonyl] thien-2-yl } methyl) -3-methoxybenzamide;~~

3-methoxy-N-({5-[4-{3-
[(trifluoromethyl)sulfonyl]anilino}piperidin-1-
yl)sulfonyl]thien-2-yl)methyl}benzamide;

N-({5-[4-anilinopiperidin-1-yl)sulfonyl]thien-2-
yl)methyl}-3-methoxybenzamide;

N-[5-{4-(4-hydroxyanilino)piperidin-1-
yl)sulfonyl}thien-2-yl)methyl]-3-methoxybenzamide;

N-[5-{4-(2-hydroxyanilino)piperidin-1-
yl)sulfonyl}thien-2-yl)methyl]-3-methoxybenzamide;

3-methoxy-N-[(5-{4-(pyrimidin-2-ylamino)piperidin-
1-yl)sulfonyl}thien-2-yl)methyl]benzamide;

N-{5-({4-[(3-aminopyridin-2-yl)amino]piperidin-1-
yl)sulfonyl}thien-2-yl)methyl}-3-methoxybenzamide;

N-[5-{4-({3-nitropyridin-2-yl}amino)piperidin-1-
yl)sulfonyl}thien-2-yl)methyl]-3-methoxybenzamide;

N-{5-({4-[(2,2-dioxido-1,3-dihydro-2-benzothien-5-
yl)amino]piperidin-1-yl)sulfonyl}thien-2-yl)methyl}-3-
methoxybenzamide;

N-[5-{4-(2,3-dihydro-1H-inden-5-ylamino)piperidin-
1-yl)sulfonyl}thien-2-yl)methyl]-3-methoxybenzamide;

3-methoxy-N-[(5-{4-(2-propylanilino)piperidin-1-
yl)sulfonyl}thien-2-yl)methyl]benzamide;

3-methoxy-N-[(5-{4-(4-propylanilino)piperidin-1-
yl)sulfonyl}thien-2-yl)methyl]benzamide;

N-[(5-{[4-(3-tert-butylanilino)piperidin-1-yl]sulfonyl}thien-2-yl)methyl]-3-methoxybenzamide;

~~3-methoxy-N-[(5-{[4-[3-(morpholin-4-yl)sulfonyl]anilino]piperidin-1-yl}sulfonyl)thien-2-yl]methyl]benzamide;~~

3-methoxy-N-[(5-{[4-(2-phenylethyl)piperidin-1-yl]sulfonyl}thien-2-yl)methyl]benzamide;

N-[(5-{[4-(3-ethylanilino)piperidin-1-yl]sulfonyl}thien-2-yl)methyl]-3-methoxybenzamide;

3-methoxy-N-[(5-{[4-(5,6,7,8-tetrahydronaphthalen-1-ylamino)piperidin-1-yl]sulfonyl}thien-2-yl)methyl]benzamide;

N-[(5-{[4-(1H-1,2,3-benzotriazol-1-yl)piperidin-1-yl]sulfonyl}thien-2-yl)methyl]-2-oxo-1,2-dihydropyridine-3-carboxamide;

N-[(5-{[4-(1H-1,2,3-benzotriazol-1-yl)piperidin-1-yl]sulfonyl}thien-2-yl)methyl]-3,4-dihydroxybenzamide;

N-[(5-{[4-(1H-1,2,3-benzotriazol-1-yl)piperidin-1-yl]sulfonyl}thien-2-yl)methyl]pyridine-2-carboxamide;

N-[(5-{[4-(hexyloxy)piperidin-1-yl]sulfonyl}thien-2-yl)methyl]-3-methoxybenzamide;

N-[(5-{[4-(heptanoyl)piperidin-1-yl]sulfonyl}thien-2-yl)methyl]-3-methoxybenzamide;

4-chloro-N-[(5-{[4-(3-propylanilino)piperidin-1-yl]sulfonyl}-2-furyl)methyl]benzamide;

4-chloro-N-[(5-{[4-(3-chloroanilino)piperidin-1-yl]sulfonyl}-2-furyl)methyl]benzamide;

4-chloro-N-[(5-{[4-(3-methoxyanilino)piperidin-1-yl]sulfonyl}-2-furyl)methyl]benzamide;

4-chloro-N-{[5-({4-[3-(trifluoromethyl)anilino]piperidin-1-yl}sulfonyl)-2-furyl]methyl}benzamide;

4-chloro-N-{[5-({4-[3-(dimethylamino)anilino]piperidin-1-yl}sulfonyl)-2-furyl]methyl}benzamide;

4-chloro-N-{[5-({4-[3-(methylsulfonyl)anilino]piperidin-1-yl}sulfonyl)-2-furyl]methyl}benzamide;

4-chloro-N-{[5-({4-[3-(methylsulfanyl)anilino]piperidin-1-yl}sulfonyl)-2-furyl]methyl}benzamide;

methyl 3-({1-[(5-{[(4-chlorobenzoyl)amino]methyl}-2-furyl)sulfonyl]piperidin-4-yl}amino)benzoate;

3-({1-[(5-{[(4-chlorobenzoyl)amino]methyl}-2-furyl)sulfonyl]piperidin-4-yl}amino)benzamide;

4-chloro-N-({5-[(4-{3-nitroanilino}piperidin-1-yl)sulfonyl]-2-furyl)methyl}benzamide;

4-chloro-N-[(5-{[4-(2-methoxyanilino)piperidin-1-yl]sulfonyl}-2-furyl)methyl]benzamide;

4-chloro-N-({5-[(4-{2-nitroanilino}piperidin-1-yl)sulfonyl]-2-furyl)methyl}benzamide;

4-chloro-N-[(5-{[4-(4-chloroanilino)piperidin-1-yl)sulfonyl]-2-furyl)methyl}benzamide;

4-chloro-N-({5-[(4-{[(trifluoromethyl)sulfonyl]anilino}piperidin-1-yl)sulfonyl]-2-furyl)methyl}benzamide;

N-{[5-({4-[4-(aminocarbonyl)anilino]piperidin-1-yl)sulfonyl]-2-furyl)methyl}-4-chlorobenzamide;

4-chloro-N-({5-[(4-{[(trifluoromethyl)sulfonyl]anilino}piperidin-1-yl)sulfonyl]-2-furyl)methyl}benzamide; and

N-({5-[(4-anilinopiperidin-1-yl)sulfonyl]-2-furyl)methyl)-4-chlorobenzamide; ~~and~~.

12. (Previously Presented) A sulfonamide compound according to claim 11, which is selected from the group consisting of:

4-chloro-N-[(5-{[4-(2,4-difluorobenzoyl)piperidin-1-yl)sulfonyl]thien-2-yl)methyl}benzamide;

N-({5-[(4-anilinopiperidin-1-yl)sulfonyl]thien-2-yl)methyl)-4-chlorobenzamide;

N-[(5-{[4-(1H-1,2,3-benzotriazol-1-yl)piperidin-1-yl)sulfonyl]thien-2-yl)methyl]-4-chlorobenzamide;

N-[(5-{[4-(1H-benzimidazol-1-yl)piperidin-1-yl]sulfonyl}thien-2-yl)methyl]-4-chlorobenzamide;

4-chloro-N-{[5-({4-[3-propylanilino]piperidin-1-yl}sulfonyl)thien-2-yl)methyl}benzamide;

4-chloro-N-[(5-{[4-(4-chloroanilino)piperidin-1-yl]sulfonyl}thien-2-yl)methyl]benzamide;

4-nitro-N-[(5-{[4-(3-methoxyanilino)piperidin-1-yl]sulfonyl}thien-2-yl)methyl]benzamide;

methyl 3-{[1-({5-[(4-nitrobenzoyl)amino)methyl]thien-2-yl}sulfonyl)piperidin-4-yl]amino}benzoate;

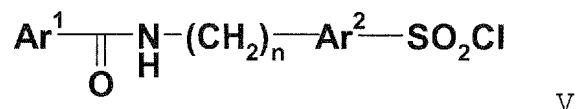
N-[(5-{[4-(1H-1,2,3-benzotriazol-1-yl)piperidin-1-yl]sulfonyl}thien-2-yl)methyl]-2-hydroxybenzamide; and

N-({5-[(4-{2-nitroanilino}piperidin-1-yl)sulfonyl]thien-2-yl)methyl}-3-methoxybenzamide.

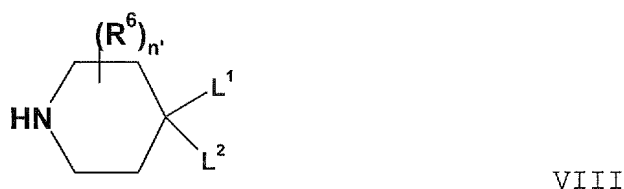
13-19. (Cancelled)

20. (Previously Presented) A pharmaceutical composition containing at least one sulfonamide compound according to claim 1 and a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier, diluent or excipient.

21. (Currently Amended) Process for the preparation of a sulfonamide compound according to claim 1, comprising reacting a sulfonyl chloride according to formula V



with an amine according to formula VIII



whereby

n is an integer of from 0 to 5,

n' is an integer of from 0 to 4,

R₆-R⁶ is selected from the group consisting of hydrogen, substituted or unsubstituted C₁-C₆ alkyl, substituted or unsubstituted C₁-C₆ alkoxy, OH, halogen, nitro, cyano, sulfonyl and oxo;

L¹ and L² are independently selected from the group consisting of hydrogen, substituted or unsubstituted C₂-C₆ alkyl, substituted or unsubstituted C₂-C₆ alkenyl, and substituted or unsubstituted C₃-C₆ alkynyl; or L¹ and L² are independently selected from the group consisting of substituted or unsubstituted aryl, substituted or unsubstituted heteroaryl, aryl- C₁-C₆ alkyl, heteroaryl- C₁-C₆ alkyl, substituted or unsubstituted cyclic C₄-C₈ alkyl

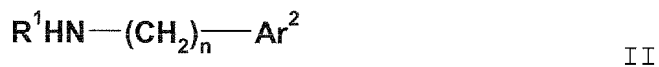
optionally containing 1-3 heteroatoms and optionally fused with aryl or heteroaryl, $-C(O)R^3$, $-C(O)OR^3$, $-C(O)-NR^{3'}R^3$, $-NR^{3'}R^3$, $-NR^{3'}C(O)R^3$, $-NR^{3'}C(O)NR^3R^3$, $-NR^{3'}C(O)R^3R^3$, $-(SO)R^3$, $(SO_2)R^3$, $NHSO_2R^3$ and $SO_2NR^{3'}R^3$;

with R^3 and $R^{3'}$ being substituents independently selected from the group consisting of hydrogen, substituted or unsubstituted C_1 - C_6 alkyl, substituted or unsubstituted aryl, substituted or unsubstituted heteroaryl, substituted or unsubstituted aryl- C_1 - C_6 alkyl and substituted or unsubstituted heteroaryl- C_1 - C_6 alkyl;

said aryl or heteroaryl groups being optionally substituted C_1 - C_6 alkyl, C_1 - C_6 alkoxy, C_2 - C_6 alkenyl, C_2 - C_6 alkynyl, amino, acylamino, aminocarbonyl, C_2 - C_6 alkoxycarbonyl, aryl, carboxyl, cyano, halogen, hydroxy, nitro, sulfonyl, sulfoxy and C_1 - C_6 thioalkoxy.

22. (Previously Presented) A process according to claim 21, wherein said sulfonyl chloride of formula V is obtained by

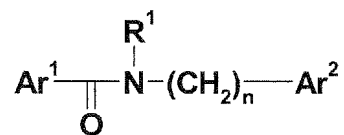
a) coupling an amine of formula II:



with an acyl chloride of formula III:

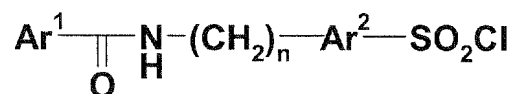


to provide an amide of formula IV:



IV

b) sulfonating the amide of formula IV to provide the sulfonyl chloride of formula V



V.

23-26. (Cancelled)

27. (Previously Presented) The sulfonamide compound according to claim 1 wherein n is an integer of from 1 to 3.

28. (Previously Presented) The sulfonamide compound according to claim 27 wherein n is 1.

29. (Previously Presented) The composition according to claim 2 wherein n is an integer of from 1 to 3.

30. (Previously Presented) The composition according to claim 29 wherein n is 1.

31. (Currently Amended) The composition according to
claim ~~3~~2 wherein n is 1 or 2.

32-34. (Cancelled)

35. (Previously Presented) The sulfonamide compound
according to claim 5 wherein the C₁-C₆ alkyl group is
trihalomethyl.

36-41. (Cancelled)